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INFORMATION REPORT

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10 Oct 58

Sighting of Unidentified
Airborne Objects Near Leningrad

NO OF PAGES
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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT #

DATE OF INFORMATION (Date of event, or if born was which month or significant date, and to report
received)
Jul 58

RESPONSE TO

PLACE AND DATE ACQUIRED (By person)
Leningrad; Moscow; Jul 58

OO/C

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE

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6. Nothing of interest occurred during our Leningrad visit, and on the evening of 11 July we departed by train for Moscow. This 10 hour trip was uneventful except for one incident which took place when we were about one hour out of the Leningrad station. I was looking out of the train window toward the east when I noticed two bright lights with gray smoke trails rising vertically into the air. Because of the poor visibility and the distance involved I could not tell whether the lights were propulsion flames of some sort or whether they were integral parts of larger objects. I could not judge the speed of ascent, nor could I tell how far away the objects were, but they remained in view, still in ascent, for about 10 minutes. I called them to the attention of the above-mentioned Intourist guide and he just laughed and said, "Maybe we're launching two more satellites."
7. We forgot the above incident until later in Moscow when the Russian-speaking member of the tour and I were given a short sightseeing trip around the city by [redacted] official whom I shall call Ivanov and about whom I shall comment later. [redacted] companion remarked to Ivanov that we had seen two bright lights rising upward and asked him if he knew what they might have been. Ivanov was driving alone in the front seat of the car, and without turning he made a joking reference to Sputniks similar to the one made by our guide. When we told him that the lights appeared to be traveling too slowly to be rockets of that type he laughed again and said, "Well, maybe they were flying saucers." My friend, going along with the joke, said, "Stop kidding us Ivanov, we know what flying saucers look like." At this, Ivanov immediately pulled the car off the road, stopped, and turned around to face us, evidently flustered. "You do know what flying saucers look like?" he inquired. When I registered surprise at this concern he started the car up again and changed the subject completely. We did not discuss it with Ivanov or anyone else after that.

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